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Docket No.: 1247-0822-0 PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

PIERRE JEANVOINE ET AL

: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION:

(BASED ON PCT/FR99/00123)

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: PROCESS FOR MELTING AND

REFINING VITRIFIABLE MATERIALS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 3, lines 1-2, replace "one of the preceding claims" with --Claim 1--.

Claim 4, lines 1-2, replace "one of the preceding claims" with -- Claim 1--.

Claim 5, line 1, delete "or Claim 4".

Claim 6, lines 1-2, replace "one of the preceding claims" with -- Claim 1--.

Claim 7, lines 1-2, replace "one of the preceding claims" with -- Claim 1--.

Claim 8, lines 1-2, replace "one of the preceding claims" with -- Claim 1--.